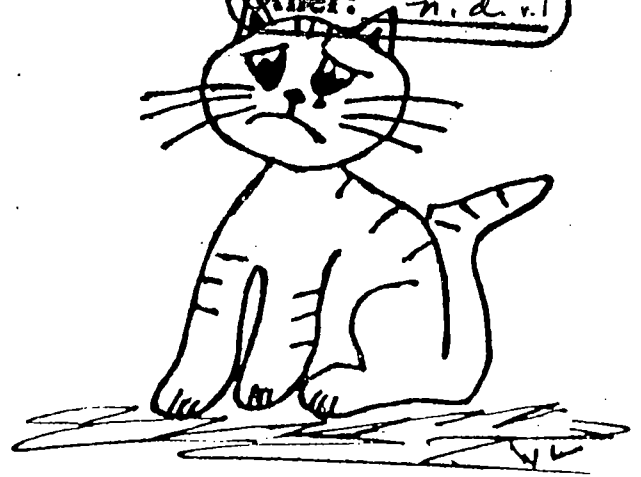


om *Smiley/*
Central file

Ref ADR

Site:	SANGAMO
Break:	134-AR
Other:	n.d.v.l



C.A.T.S.

(CITIZENS AGAINST TOXIC SUBSTANCES)

What is C.A.T.S.?

How can I Join?

What are PCBs?

Have I been exposed?

NON-PROFIT
ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

CENTRAL, S.C.
29630

PERMIT NO.

ADDRESS RETURN
REQUESTED

C.A.T.S.
Box 13, Main Street
Route 2,
Central, South Carolina 29630
803-639-4523

FREE
SCOTT



10726897

I. INTRODUCTION

- * Do you live in the Pickens County?
- ** Have you swam in Twelve Mile River or Lake Hartwell?
- *** Do you eat the fish from Twelve Mile River or Lake Hartwell?
- **** Does Easley-Central Water District supply your tap water?
- ***** Have you ever worked at Sangamo Weston (Sangamo Electric) Company?
- ***** Have you had any of the symptoms listed below more than one time or for longer than two weeks?

Cancer (all types)
Skin Sores or Rashes
Kidney Infection
Bladder Infection
Liver Damage or Dysfunction
Gastric Problems
Eye Infection
Headaches
Cysts or Hard Knots in groin area or under arms
Tumors
Female Infection
Still Born Babies
Babies with Birth Defects
Miscarriages
Children With Learning Disabilities
Joint Pains
Unexplained Fevers
Constant Infections
Constant Colds or Flu Symptoms
Nausea
Diarrhea

If you have answered "YES" to any of the above, you may be a victim of PCB poisoning.

C.A.T.S. (Citizens Against Toxic Substances) is a non-profit group organized to help provide people in the Pickens County area with information regarding PCBs, PCB exposure, medical problems associated with PCB poisoning, and the clean-up of contaminated environment.

Please read the following pages for a summary of information on these matters. Details are also provided on how you can join C.A.T.S. and make Pickens County a safe place to live.

II. WHAT ARE PCBs?

PCBs are not one chemical, but a family of similar compounds that are manufactured. PCBs have fifteen times the density of water. PCBs are colorless, odorless, and fire resistant. PCBs are extremely stable chemically, and break down only at extremely high temperatures.

PCBs were made from approximately 1922 until 1977. They had a wide range of use. Today, they are used in closed electrical systems only. Before 1970, PCBs were used as dye carriers in carbonless carbon paper, plasticizers in paint, rubber and plastic products, adhesives, coating compounds, among other things.

III. MEDICAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH PCBs.

The International Agency for Research on cancer has said that PCBs are carcinogenic (cancer causing in humans). The other problems that have been related to PCB exposure include liver damage, kidney damage, thyroid gland dysfunction, and disruption of enzyme function. Various biochemical abnormalities resulting from PCB exposure have been found in metabolic, neurologic, muscular, and sensory systems.

Human exposure to PCBs has caused a variety of documented effects. Chloracne, a painful skin disease, is typically associated with PCBs. Other effects include dermatitis, rashes and sores, discharge from the eyes, swelling of the upper eyelid, temporary loss of sight and hearing, excessive pigmentation (dark spots) of skin, nails, and mucous membranes, skin lesions, fatigue (tired feeling), swelling and pain in joints, and a variety of birth defects in children born to exposed mothers. Several deaths have been attributed to PCB exposure, with notable symptoms of liver damage and jaundice.

PCBs tend to accumulate in body fat, especially mothers' milk. Human milk has universally been found to be loaded with PCBs. If it were for sale, PCBs would be BANNED. One study in Michigan found most mothers to have PCB concentrations of 1 to 2 ppm (parts per million) with some concentrations running up to 5.1 ppm in their milk. Babies are especially susceptible to the toxic effects of PCBs. Yet, the average baby would get a body burden of nearly 1 ppm in 9 months of nursing. It has been found tha PCBs are transmitted through the placenta and absorbed by the fetus, on some occasions at higher concentrations than in the mother's body.

Also, PCBs have been found to concentrate in the brains of babies. In Japan, children born to PCB exposed mothers were neurologically and developmentally impaired (damaged), up to nine years after the PCB poisoning.

PCBs are extremely stable chemicals. They are not broken down by any natural processes. They take from 300 to 500 years for their chemical structure to collapse. Once released into the environment, they tend to accumulate in the tissues of living organisms (humans, fish, plant life) by processes known as bioaccumulation and biomagnification. PCBs are more soluble in fat and organic matter than in water. So, once they enter into an organism (person, fish, etc.) through food or water, they tend to remain in the fat tissue for LIFE, causing all sorts of damage.

IV. PCBs IN PICKENS COUNTY AREA.

In the mid 1950's, an electrical plant was built in Pickens, South Carolina. Its name was Sangamo Electric Company. Soon after it began to operate, Sangamo Electric began to dump PCBs into Town Creek.

This was accomplished by allowing all wastes from the plant to flow through a concrete drainage ditch straight into the Creek. In later years, the wastes were routed through a waste treatment pond, then into the Creek. This process is still being used. Town Creek flows into Twelve Mile River and Twelve Mile River joins Keowee River in Clemson to form the Seneca River, which is a tributary of the Savannah River. All of these rivers form Lake Hartwell.

A former D.H.E.C. official estimates that in a 16 year period, from 1960 to 1976, Sangamo Electric (now called Sangamo Weston) was dumping at least 2 tons of PCB waste per month into Town Creek, and possibly much more.

Sangamo also dumped these toxic chemicals into the Easley Landfill, Easley, South Carolina; Central Landfill, Central, South Carolina; Trotters Dump and Midway Landfill, Pickens, South Carolina; Nix Dump on Glassy Mountain, South Carolina; on the land under the Pickens County Flea Market on the Walhalla Highway, Pickens, South Carolina; in a two acre meadow near Six Mile Creek, Six Mile, South Carolina; Brezeale landfill four miles west of Pickens near Wolf Creek; Welborn property landfill on Turner Road, Pickens, South Carolina; Crossroads Church property landfill, Dacusville, South Carolina; and on-site at the Sangamo plant.

There may be more dumps that haven't been discovered yet. Privately owned trash trucks hauled and dumped Sangamo's toxic wastes (PCBs) all over Pickens County. Possibly in a gully near your home. If you know of a dump near you or your community, it could have PCBs in it. If it is not listed above, call George Milan, at the D.H.E.C. office in Greenville today, (242-6160), and have the dump checked --at no cost-- for the safety of your family and friends.

V. PCBs IN PICKENS COUNTY WATER AND FISH

In 1960, the Easley-Central Water District was formed, and they built a pump station on Twelve Mile River at Cateechee, just above the bridge on Highway 137. PCBs have shown up as high as 17ppm in the finished drinking water, and higher in the raw water. The E.P.A. standard for drinking water is substantially less than 17ppm.

This water is sold to 3500 homes in the Cateechee--Norris--Central-- East Clemson--and Whispering Pines area. If you pay your bill to the Easley-Central Water District at Norris, South Carolina, you are probably receiving your water out of the Twelve Mile River. In 1984, the tests on this water still showed 0.05 ppb (parts per billion). This is higher than what the E.P.A. considers a "CANCER CAUSING RISK FOR A LIFE-TIME." The E.P.A.'s figure is .0032 ppb. The level of 0.05 ppb could be higher during rain falls because of leeching from three creeks that have dumps near them containing PCBs.

The City of Pickens water plant has shown high amounts of PCBs in their raw and finished water, so Six Mile and Pickens, South Carolina may be drinking PCB contaminated water also.

There are several "HOT SPOTS" on Twelve Mile River. The one we know about is at Maw Bridge on the Highway between Central and Six Mile. Tests of sediment there show 35 ppm to 70 ppm. E.P.A. calls for removing or burning any material that contains more than 50 ppm of PCBs.

Anyone eating fish out of the water is in danger. If you catch a fish that has 200ppm in its edible tissue, and you eat this fish, then you will have 200ppm of PCBs in your body for the rest of your life. PCBs are not eliminated by any natural body process. Most scientists agree that one (1) part per trillion of PCBs can give you a full blown cancer. (part per trillion is less than billion or million -- part per million is the highest level).

Where is all this toxic waste (possibly estimated 720 TONS of PCBs in 30 years) going? Straight into Hartwell Lake and the Savannah River, then the ocean. At first, PCBs were only found in the arm of the lake where Twelve Mile joins Keowee River. In 1983, a test made by DHEC at a bouy 200 yards from the Hartwell Dam showed 953ppb in the sediment. It has been found at Lake Russell and the Savannah River and Clark Hill Dam.

Fish tested in Lake Hartwell and Twelve Mile River have shown levels from 1ppm to 350 ppm. The acceptable level for fish set by the EPA is 2ppm. Humans can be exposed to PCBs by eating poisoned fish, swimming in polluted water, using sand laced with PCBs, eating plant life (poke salad), nuts, berries that grow in or near the river. Any type of animals hunted and eaten could be poisoned if they drink from the river. Frog legs and turtles can be poisoned too.

PCBs have been found in the ground water and the air in Pickens, S. C. So, no matter what ANYONE tells you, PCBs are in Pickens County, Twelve Mile River, and Lake Hartwell to STAY, until their chemical structure breaks down -- which takes 500 years. These chemicals are TOXIC to humans.

VI. WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO PCBs?

If you think your family or you have been exposed to PCBs and you may have a health problem, or if you have any information concerning PCB contamination in your area, please contact our Senators, Representatives, and DHEC officials, and ask, NO, DEMAND, that your community be tested by DHEC to see to what extent you have been exposed. Do this ... not just for yourself, but for your children and grandchildren. Important addresses and telephone numbers are listed below:

Congressman Butler Derrick
Box 4126
Anderson, South Carolina 29622
Telephone: (803) 224-7401

George Milan and Dr. Ron Polett
Department of Health and Environmental Control
Greenville, South Carolina
Telephone: (803) 242-6160

Senator Ernest Hollings
U. S. Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510
Telephone: (202) 224-6121

Senator Strom Thurmond
U. S. Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510
Telephone: (202) 224-5972

Senator Nell Smith
District One, Box 68
Easley, South Carolina 29640
Telephone: (803) 859-0814 or 859-9305

VII. WHAT IS C.A.T.S. AND HOW CAN I JOIN?

C.A.T.S. (Citizens Against Toxic Substances) is a non-profit organization made up of Pickens County residents. The purpose of C.A.T.S. is to inform others about the dangers associated with PCB exposure. C.A.T.S. is also working to clean-up Pickens County.

C.A.T.S. has an office, which is located at 21 Main Street, Cateechee, South Carolina. C.A.T.S. members hold meetings there every first Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m. The office is also open every Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., during which time you can read the many articles C.A.T.S. has in its library regarding PCB exposure.

If you are interested in joining C.A.T.S., simply fill out the application form attached to this booklet and mail it to C.A.T.S., 21 Main Street, Cateechee, South Carolina 29630, or, stop by the office during office hours, or give us a telephone call at (803) 639-4523.

There are no membership fees to join C.A.T.S. because C.A.T.S. is a non-profit organization.

Help us make Pickens County a CLEAN and SAFE place to live, once again, contact our state representative, Larry Martin, at the address below and tell him you are concerned about this problem and that you want our elected officials to take this serious matter into their hands and help us solve the problem.

Larry Martin, Route 5 Box 545, Easley, S.C. 29640.
Business phone no: 859-9951 Home phone no: 859-9951

PCBs ARE MAN-MADE CHEMICALS THAT ARE PRESENT IN THE PICKENS AREA

* PCBs are in Twelve Mile Creek

* PCBs are in Lake Hartwell

* PCBs are in the Easley Central Water District lines

PCBs ARE HARMFUL TO PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

PLEASE HELP US STOP THIS POLLUTION,..... JOIN C.A.T.S. TODAY !!!!

C.A.T.S.

21 Main Street

Gateechee, S.C.

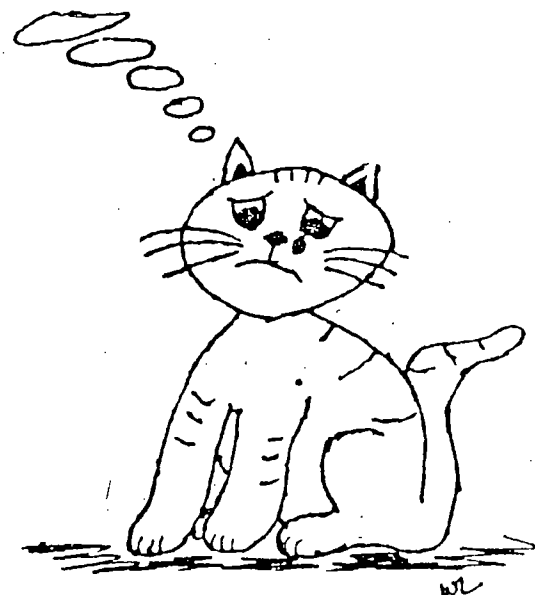
803-639-4523

Office Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 2-4p.m.

Meetings:

First Sunday, Every Month: 2:30p.m.



YES...I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN YOUR GROUP.
PLEASE ADD MY NAME TO YOUR MAILING LIST.

YES...I WILL ATTEND C.A.T.S. MEETINGS WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO: _____

AGE: _____

PLEASE ADD THE NAME OF MY FRIEND TO YOUR MAILING LIST.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO: _____

C.A.T.S. IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION...THERE ARE NO MEMBERSHIP FEES.

CITIZENS AGAINST TOXIC SUBSTANCES ("C.A.T.S.")

Box 13, Main Street

Route 2,

Central, South Carolina 29630

place
stamp
here

C.A.T.S.
Box 13, Main Street
Route 2,
Central, South Carolina
29630

Help Fight Pollution in Pickens Area

JOIN C.A.T.S. NOW!!!

CITIZENS AGAINST TOXIC SUBSTANCES

